

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Rejection of claim 11:

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Response:

Claim 11 has been amended to solve the problem of the unclear description of the passivation layer. Specifically, claim 11 has been revised as follows. The passivation layer of the present invention is made of a compound reacted by organic and inorganic materials, and the compound has a varied organic/inorganic ratio from an inner side of the passivation layer adjacent to the organic light emitting unit to an outer side of the passivation layer. This is supported in the specification, in paragraph [0022], “In the sputtering process, a mask is used to control the exposed area of the organic material 152 and the inorganic material 154. By changing the relative position between the mask and the mix target 150 properly, the exposed area of organic material 152 can be reduced and/or the exposed area of inorganic material 154 can be increased so that the organic/inorganic ratio of the formed organic/inorganic film can be changed gradually along the thickness of the passivation layer. The inner side of the passivation layer structure 116 adjacent to the organic light emitting display unit 114 has a higher content of organic material and therefore exhibits characteristics substantially similar to those of the organic material, i.e. an excellent adhesion and a thermal expansion coefficient and a stress matching with those of the organic light emitting display unit 114. In contrast, the outer side of the passivation layer structure 116 has a high content of inorganic material (a low content of organic material) and thereby exhibits a high water repelling ability characteristic of inorganic materials.” As shown above, the amended claim 11 is supported by the specification. Thus no new matter is added.

2. Rejection of claim 11-16:

Claim 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Shi et al. (US 5,811,177). Reasons for rejection are shown in page 2-4 of above-mentioned Office Action.

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Response:

In regard to claims 11, Examiner notes that Shi et al. discloses an organic light emitting display device having a substrate 10, and an organic light emitting unit 13 on the substrate 10. The organic light emitting unit 13 is covered by several layers for protection, which includes a buffer layer 22, a thermal coefficient layer 24, and an inorganic layer 26. The material of the buffer layer 22 is an organometallic complex, Alq. The thermal coefficient layer 24 is made of SiO₂, and the inorganic layer 26 is made of metal, respectively. Consequently, these layers for protection are made of different material, and are formed by different process.

15 The passivation layer 116 of the present application is a **single** layer, and is made of a compound **having a varied organic/inorganic ratio**. As illustrated in specification, the passivation layer 116 is formed by reducing the ratio between the reactant sources of the organic materials and the inorganic materials continuously during the fabricating process, the organic/inorganic ratio of the passivation layer 116 is also decreasing gradually. Therefore, 20 the inner side of the passivation layer 116 formed earlier has an organic/inorganic ratio higher than that of the outer side of the passivation layer 116 formed later and being farther from the organic light emitting display unit. The inner side of the passivation layer structure 116 adjacent to the organic light emitting display unit 114 has a higher content of organic material and therefore exhibits characteristics substantially similar to those of the organic material. In 25 contrast, the outer side of the passivation layer structure 116 has a high content of inorganic material and thereby exhibits a high water repelling ability characteristic of inorganic materials.

Comparing the present application to Shi's invention, several differences are found and listed as follows:

1. The layers of Shi's invention for protection, which includes the buffer layer 22, the thermal coefficient layer 24, and the inorganic layer 26, each of the layers is made of a uniform compound. In addition, each of the layers is formed individually. Even if each of the uniform compounds may have an organic/inorganic ratio, the ratio is fixed. However, the passivation layer 116 of the present invention is formed by one fabrication process, **and the compound of the passivation layer 116 has a varied organic/inorganic ratio** from the inner side adjacent to the organic light emitting display unit to the outer side.
2. The buffer layer 22, the thermal coefficient layer 24 and the inorganic layer 26 are made of different materials. However, the passivation layer 116 of the present invention is made of one compound, and has two different characteristics. **The inner side of the passivation layer adjacent to the organic light emitting unit is performed substantially similar to those of the organic material**, i.e. an excellent adhesion and a thermal expansion coefficient and a stress matching with those of the organic light emitting display unit 114. **The outer side of the passivation layer far from the organic light emitting unit exhibits a high water repelling ability characteristic of inorganic materials**. Shi et al. never suggests or teaches the buffer layer, the thermal coefficient layer 24, and the inorganic layer 26, can be made of the same material and have two different characteristics on the inner side and the outer side thereof.
3. The layers of Shi's invention for protection include the buffer layer 22, the thermal coefficient layer 24, and the inorganic layer 26. However, the passivation layer of the present application is a single layer. The structure of Shi's invention and the present application is apparently different.

According to above-mentioned reasons, claim 11 of the present application is definite and patentably distinguishable from Shi's invention. Claims 12-16 are dependent upon claim

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and should be patentable if claim 11 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 11-16 is politely requested.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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Sincerely yours,

Winston Hsu

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15 Note: Please leave a message in my voice mail if you need to talk to me. (The time in D.C. is 12 hours behind the Taiwan time, i.e. 9 AM in D.C. = 9 PM in Taiwan.)